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29 March 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussions with William Woodruff, Staff
Member Senate Appropriations Committee

1. Reviewed with William Woodruff the Committee plans for Intelligence hearings on the fiscal year 1973 budget. Woodruff advised that Intelligence hearings would come some time after the Easter recess but that specific dates could not be set before the middle of next week.

2. As regards the presentation of the Community budget, Woodruff advised he wished to be responsive to whatever the Director desired. He noted that the Director would be appearing before the House Committee explicitly to speak about the Community Program this year, and that Senator Ellender would probably want an equivalent presentation by the DCI to the Senate Intelligence Appropriations Committee on the Director's new role.

3. I explained that I had a copy of the proposed remarks prepared for use by the Director before Mr. Mahon's committee. It was noted that the Director would not be in a position to go into specific detail on each program but that he planned to provide an integrated picture of the overall costs for National Intelligence as it is currently defined. (Woodruff noted that, in the new role, the DCI is susceptible to blame by other program managers of the Community for any cuts made in the total program by Congress. He assumed the Director recognized this prospect as inevitable and one which probably could not be avoided.)

4. I then reviewed with Woodruff the proposed presentation for the House Appropriations Committee, and discussed Ralph Preston's plans for appearance of the other principals. I advised

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that Ralph Preston had advised that the Director would be asked by the Chairman to have a representative at DOD Intelligence hearings of the House similar to the coverage provided the NRO sessions in the past years in the Senate. I advised the Director was not pressing this point, but was prepared to respond to the Chairman's wishes, whatever they are, in this matter. Woodruff then read the specific content in the proposed DCI House presentation and reviewed some of the graphics.

5. After reading the House briefing, Woodruff stated that he felt the House presentation was the kind that Senator Ellender and other members of the Senate Appropriations Committee should hear on the Community and this year if possible. He said that unless the Director had specific objection, he would set aside a morning or a full day, if necessary, for such a presentation. Woodruff said he also would plan to prepare for the Chairman's signature a letter to each of the four Intelligence Appropriations Committee members urging their attendance at this important session. He stated that he would prefer to have the Director appear before Senator Ellender and the other Appropriations members before having the DOD intelligence chiefs appear. He advised that he was seeing Bob Moot, Comptroller of DOD, and Dr. Hall on 29 March and would advise them of this plan. He suggested that 2-1/2 hours should be adequate but indicated that he would be prepared to set aside a whole day if that seemed desirable. I expressed the view that the most productive part of a session is in the morning, and I saw little purpose served by extending it into the afternoon on this first go-around. Woodruff said that Senator Ellender would expect the Director to appear also on the CIA budget but at a separate session and hoped that there would be no questions concerning the CIA budget during the Community hearing. He saw no problem with the Director having the CIA budget briefing given as Colonel White has done in the past.

6. Woodruff asked that copies of the Director's remarks for the Senate be prepared so that each member of the Committee could follow along as the statement is given. He also asked that a copy be provided to him "several days in advance of the session" in order to allow him time to place marginal annotations for the Chairman which will help remind the Chairman of "pertinent relationships, past comments, or positions he has taken". He

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also stated that if questions should develop before the hearing he would make these known to me as well as the annotations provided the Chairman. I agreed that this was a very essential arrangement noting that surprises were unproductive. He agreed.

7. Woodruff then advised that the Senate Committee was looking to [REDACTED] He had before him what appeared to be a list of the candidates but he did not volunteer any specifics in this matter. Rather, he observed that after the Senate Committee finalizes on a cut for Intelligence, the Chairman would probably ask the DCI to suggest where the cut could best be taken with minimum impact. I explained that the Director's presentation would be in support of the President's budget for Intelligence and that the Community was still reeling from and adjusting to the cuts of last year. Woodruff stated there would obviously be time on this one, but he felt it would be reasonable for the Chairman to seek the DCI's judgments in order to avoid arbitrary action. On the other hand, he pointed out that the Chairman was bent on cutting Intelligence further. He related the unhappy coincidence of the Navy reporting in testimony this year to the Chairman that it had decided not to take the cuts in intelligence suggested by the Committee last year but instead to reduce the dollars in another part of Navy programs. I explained that I understood that Mr. Moot and Secretary Laird had corrected that misstatement. Woodruff observed that they had tried hard but first impressions are lasting with Mr. Ellender. (This convinced me that the Director must have a fairly comprehensive list of the precise locations of cuts, and I will develop such a list to be consistent with Bob Moot's response and Dr. Hall's testimony.)

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8. Woodruff returned to the point of seeing Bob Moot and Dr. Hall on Wednesday, 29 March. He observed that Dr. Hall's job was not at all clear to the Chairman who had been adversely influenced by Froehle's testimony in previous years. Woodruff also observed that he had received some negative signals about Hall. He hoped a good working relationship and free flow of information would be forthcoming from Hall. He stated that this kind of arrangement did exist with Moot but, if he were to believe the reports, Hall's inclinations were somewhat different. I pointed out that the better Hall did his job in reviewing DOD resources, the easier the DCI's resource review should be. I

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reported that in the meetings I have had with Dr. Hall, I found him to be attentive and very sensitive to the importance of developing a good Congressional presentation, recognizing his newness in the process. I observed that I felt Hall would be open to helpful suggestions. On further inquiry about Hall's tasks, I pointed out that Hall's role was primarily one of reviewing resource requirements and that he had no substantive intelligence output responsibility.

9. Woodruff then raised the question of the size of the so-called National Intelligence Program. He urged that the Director indicate somewhere in his statement that he planned to examine the makeup of the National Intelligence Program as it is currently budgeted and also to give some attention to

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10. I indicated to Woodruff that I would report back the sense of our conversation and would be in touch with him early next week after Senator Ellender had returned to get advice on the timing of a Community hearing should one be required.

NOTE:

My impression is that Woodruff will be guided by the Director's wishes on the content of the hearing, that Ellender will want similar treatment to Mr. Mahon, and that the restiveness reflected in the past by Stennis will cause the Director to be asked about the content and size of the National Budget.

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